

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

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TAGS: PFOR, AS

SUB: AUSTRALIAN NEWS ROUNDUP - WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15.

TO REDUCE GROUPS ALL PAPERS WILL HAVE NAMES ABBREVIATED
AS IN EA PRESS SUMMARY. FOLLOWING IS LIST: SYDNEY
MORNING HERALD - SMH, AGE - NO CHANGE, AUSTRALIAN - AUST.
MELBOURNE SUN - MELSUN, CANBERRA TIMES - CT, MELBOURNE
HERALD - MELHLD, FINANCIAL REVIEW - FINREV, OTHERS WILL
BE SPELLED OUT.

HIGHLIGHTS TODAY'S PRESS INCLUDE CAMBODIAN BOMBING HALT,
NIXON ADMISSIONS FORECAST, OMEGA STATEMENT BY COMMANDING
OFFICER OF OAHU STATION AND KENNEDY DRIVING INCIDENT.

(1) CT FRONTPAGES "FINAL BLITZ BY AMERICANS IN INDO CHINA.

(2) MELSUN HEADLINES MORTON STATEMENT ON WATERGATE: "NIXON
TO ADMIT "I WAS WRONG".

(3) SMH FRONTPAGES STATEMENT BY COMMANDER GEORGE ASCHE OF
OMEGA NAVIGATION STATION OAHU, HAWAII. HEADED "OMEGA NO
USE FOR MESSAGES - COMMANDER" REPORT QUOTES ASCHE AS SAYING
OMEGA STATIONS WOULD TRANSMIT UNMODULATED SIGNALS AND
DESIGN OF ANTENNAS WAS SUCH THAT THEY COULD NOT BE CHANGED
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TO SEND MESSAGES.

MELSUN REPORT BY LAURIE OAKES HEADED "U.S. NOT HURT ON OMEGA" SAID ASCHE IMPLIED: U.S. DOES NOT CARE WHETHER AN OMEGA STATION IS BUILT IN AUSTRALIA
IF AUSTRALIA DID NOT ALLOW AN OMEGA BASE ON ITS SOIL IT WOULD BE HURTING ASIAN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY JAPAN, BUT NOT THE U.S. THE U.S. HAD NOT EVEN BOTHERED TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE SITE.

(4) MELSUN REPORT HEADED "NEW RAAF FIGHTER DECISION PUT OFF" SAYS GOA UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE POSTPONED A DECISION ON A REPLACEMENT FOR THE MIRAGE JET FIGHTER FOR AT LEAST A YEAR AND PRODUCTION OF THE BELL HELICOPTER MAY BE TEMPORARILY STOPPED. INCREASED SPENDING IN OTHER FIELDS GIVEN AS REASON.

(5) ALL PAPERS GIVING PLAY TO HOUSTON MURDERS, THIS STORY ALSO GETS RIDE ON RADIO.

(6) AGE EDIT "ONLY ONE VOICE IN MANILA" EXPRESSING CONCERN AT GROWING STATE OF DICTATORSHIP IN PHILIPPINES. NOTING UPCOMING TRIAL OF 31 FOR CONSPIRING TO KILL MARCOS AND CONTINUED IMPRISONMENT OF AGUINO. EDIT CONCLUDES "UNLESS CLEAR EVIDENCE OF GUILT CAN BE PRODUCED, THE "NEW SOCIETY IN PHILIPPINES WILL DESERVE THE DISTRUST AND CONDEMNATION OF THE WORLD.""

SMH EDIT "IMPACT" SAY PM ACHIEVEMENTS DURING OVERSEAS TRIP WERE "BOTH FEW AND OF MINOR IMPORTANCE". SAY PM EASED STRAINS WITH U.S. BUT THEN RENEWED HIS CRITICISM OF LAST THREE U.S. ADMINSTRATIONS. ADDING THAT PM SEEMS TO HAVE COMPULSIVE NEED TO BE SOME KIND OF INTERNATIONAL EVANGELIST - HE HAS MADE TACTLESS PUBLIC STATEMENT RE U.S., U.K., SINGAPORE, SEATO AND EVEN ANZUS. EDIT ENDS THAT IMPACT PM'S MAKING IS - "NOT THAT AUSTRALIA IS MORE INDEPENDENT BUT THAT IT IS LESS RELIABLE: NOT THAT IT IS MORE ADULT BUT LESS MATURE."

FINREV HAS EDIT "SE ASIAN OPTIMISTS OR REALISTS" REHASHING DIFFERING VIEWS OF LEE/WHITLAM ON SEA EDIT SAYS MUCH OF AREA UNCLASSIFIED

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NOW HAS STRONG CENTRALIST REGIMES AND ...
"INDEED, IT IS POSSIBLE TO ARGUE THAT STABILITY BOUGHT AT THE PRICE OF GALLOPING AUTHORITARIANISM IS A RETROGRADE STEP. THE TRANSFER OF POWER FROM ONE AUTOCRACY TO ANOTHER IS NOT NECESSARILY DIFFICULT.
THERE IS, THEREFORE, NO PARTICULAR CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM ABOUT THE DEVELOPING COURSE OF EVENTS IN AUSTRALIA'S OWN IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT."

GREEN

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